

Application No. 09/844,083  
Applicant. Oliver Nickel  
Amendment in Response to Office Action dated February 13, 2003

**Amendments to the claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A masking tape comprising:
  - a) a heat resistant adhesive tape comprising a flexible sheet backing and a pressure-sensitive adhesive composition applied to said backing,
  - b) a masking material, which is laminated in an edge region of the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition, said masking material being capable of adhering to paint and of absorbing paint, and
  - c) a masking sheet, which is laminated onto said edge region of the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition, the masking sheet covering the masking material on a side thereof.
2. (Previously Amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the adhesive tape is a heat-resistant adhesive tape for the automobile painter with a heat resistance at temperatures up to 130° C (1 hr).
3. (Previously Amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the adhesive tape is 15 to 75 mm wide.
4. (Previously Amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the masking material is selected

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from the group consisting of paper, woven fabric, nonwoven fabric and another sheet material capable of adhering.

5. (Previously Amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the masking material is unbleached Kraft paper, having a weight of 30 to 40 g/m<sup>2</sup> and a width of 15 to 50 cm.
6. (Previously Amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the masking sheet is a polyolefin sheet which has a thickness of 7 to 40 mm and a width of 0.5 to 2 m.
7. (Currently Amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the masking sheet is folded so that it can be extended along the external dimensions surface of the masking material and is folded against the masking material in accordion fashion.
8. (Previously Amended) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein a portion of the edge region of the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition to which the masking material adheres is 1 to 5 mm wide and the portion of the edge region of the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition to which the masking sheet adheres is 1 to 5 mm wide.
10. (Previously Amended) A method comprising applying the masking tape of claim 1 to a part to be

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masked, and then subjecting said part to a surface treatment.

11. (Currently Amended)      The masking tape of claim 2, wherein the heat-resistant adhesive tape is a fine line tape.
12. (Previously Added)      The masking tape of claim 1, wherein the flexible sheet backing is of polypropylene or soft PVC.
13. (Previously Added)      The masking tape of claim 3, wherein the adhesive tape is 19 to 30 mm wide.
14. (Previously Added)      The masking tape of claim 5, wherein the width is 20 to 40 cm.
15. (Previously Added)      The masking tape of claim 6, wherein the thickness is 8 to 20 mm.
16. (Previously Added)      The masking tape of claim 6, wherein the masking sheet is a polyethylene sheet.
17. (Previously Added)      The masking tape of claim 6, wherein the masking sheet is corona

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18. (Previously Added) The masking tape of claim 1, wherein a portion of the edge region of the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition to which the masking material adheres is 2 to 4 mm wide and the portion of the edge region of the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition to which the masking sheet adheres is 2 to 4 mm wide.

19. (Previously Added) The method of claim 10, wherein the part is an automobile part.

20. (Previously Added) The method of claim 10, wherein the surface treatment is a painting treatment.